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April 13, The Year 2000

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Volume 37, Number 9

Sudents participate in V-day activities

by Scott Balcerzak

Last Saturday, LSUS participated in the annual Volunteer Day or V-day. The day is designed to allow students and faculty members to volunteer at local charities and organizations in and around the Shreveport-Bossier area.

Dr. Brian Hirsch, a LSUS staff member who took part in the event, believes that student and faculty participation was impressive. "I thought we had a really good turnout this year,"



ty."

Hirsch said. "LSUS is part of the community and it is always important that we give something back to that communi-

The event began at 8:00 a.m. outside the Business-Education Building on campus, where the Student Government Association (SGA) provided vol-



Martino

unteers with doughnuts and juice. Then the volunteers were assigned to

their different organizations. This year, there were nine organizations involved in the event. The organizations included the following: The American Red Cross, The Rescue Mission, Shriners Hospital, The Mc Dade House, The Pioneer Her-



Bowen

itage Center, Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana, St. Catherine's Community Center, The Food Bank,

and The Shreveport Green. Nearly 70 LSUS students participated in the volunteer work, which included a range of activities from painting fences to passing out ribbons.

Hirsch contends that one of the most important aspects of the day is to allow students to personally understand the significance of volunteering. "V-day is important to LSUS students on an individual level," Hirsch said.

"It allows the students to understand the importance of giving back to the community."

SGA Senator and V-day volunteer Brad

SOC UNABLE TO VOTE Two clubs ignored

by Mark Rogers

With only 17 members out of 40 present, the SOC failed to make voting quorum for its last business meeting of the semester. The SOC must have a 2/3 attendance to vote.

Instead, there was an informal discussion of current preparations for Spring Fling on April 13-14, and for the next and last SOC meeting, which will be an awards banquet. Two new prospective organizations: the Black Student Union, and the Society of Reason will have to wait until the next fall for the SOC to recognize their groups. The representatives for both prospective groups were upset.

"We went through all the bureaucracy and got all the paper work in, and now we have to wait until next semester to be accepted because the council couldn't make quorum. There is nothing we can do about it. That's wrong, just plain wrong," said Brad Bowen, Political Science sophomore who was representing the Society of Reason.

Both groups plan to continue their efforts to be recognized in the fall.



Photo by Mark Rogers

The English Club prepares to paint a fence at the Shriners' Children's hospital on King's Highway.

BASEBALL

Page 7 details the happenings of your Pilots.
GO NOW

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The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"
any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the
9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary



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Conference, American College Press Association, and the
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From The Editor

Growing up in a tiny town in West Texas, I learned a little bit about small communities. Small communities can easily find themselves isolated by distance, water, or even self-imposed attitudinal barriers.

It's easy to forget that the university is really a small community. Here at LSUS, we have the everyday comings and goings of over 4,000 people. We've just been reblessed with a small town "restaurant" in the form of The Manhattan, in the University Center.

We have a small business development center that provides free consultation for people looking to open their own businesses.

We have our own police force, patrolling around this campus 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We have a radio station, KDAQ, which is a self-supporting member of the business community of the university.

We at The Almagest are also part of the media in this community.

Other than the media, it seems the most inflammatory component of small communities is politics.

More than just the well worn phrase, all politics is local, the politics here at LSUS deserves a second look.

A common story in American folklore often places strangers in small communities, and in the middle of a web of deceit.

Archetypes like "the Mayor as the Town boss," or "the Sheriff with a past" or even the "Pious townspeople who lie to protect their family's secrets" permeate these stories. But do they permeate all small communities? Do they permeate the small community we all call LSUS?

These are the stories that invisibly wallpaper this campus. When people arrive here, do they feel like they are entering a healthy thriving community? I think they probably sense the, "Outsiders are outsiders are outsiders mentality" that I sometimes feel.

I think it's important to remember that even though I could "belong" in that small West Texas town, I don't want to be part of it.

After reading Aaron McKechnie's article with the mayor of Shreveport, adjacent to this page, I decided to hold our community up to the same metric that everyone holds up for Shreveport.

The future of LSUS, to me, depends on a few people to come forward and either stand up and take some pride and responsibility for this university, or leave.

Calendar of Events

All week — LSU student art show — Art Gallery

Better than Ezra is performing April 15th at the Strand.
Tickets can be purchased in the LSUS bookstore.

Spring Fling is Thursday and Friday

Saturday

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. — Easter Egg Hunt for Kids — On the Mall

Got a story?

Call the Almagest at 797-5328 Email us at almagest@pilot.lsus.edu

The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

Q&A with Mayor Keith Hightower

by William Aaron McKechnie



Q: How has it been for you as Mayor of Shreveport?

A: It's been good. I've really enjoyed it so far. Fortunately, we have had things going our way. I've got some good people that offer good help. We've been able to accomplish a lot over the last several months.

Q: I've heard you described as a "can do" mayor. If you agree with that statement, then can you explain what makes you that type of mayor.

A: Yes, I do agree with that description.

We're not studying things to death, we're doing things to death. We're about to build an \$85 million dollar Convention Center, the largest construction project in the history of the city of Shreveport.

We're working on a roughly \$25 million expansion to the

Independence Stadium, it'll be the largest expansion we've ever had. We'll have City Hall downtown in the next 60 to 90 days, which should create an economic spurt in at least additional bodies and dollars spent in downtown Shreveport. We're also going to build a boardwalk downtown with boating docks.

Q: What do you mean by "boardwalks?"

A: Something like New Orleans, where you can walk along the river or where you can actually kick your feet in the water, more of a pedestrian area. All of these things we're doing without raising taxes one penny. We're doing them through some renewal of bond issues. It's, I don't want to say innovative financing, but good management of some of the dollars we've had. Raising taxes is certainly something I don't want to do. We'll run government as much like a business as we can. We've saved \$2 million in one year in one department, the Water Department. Making people accountable and having good solid business practices in the government sector, that gives us the extra dollars to spend in the infrastructure we have.

Q: How involved are you as mayor of Shreveport in the educational matters of the city?

A: As far as I know, I'm the first mayor that made education part of my platform. I make it a point, every single week, to visit a school and talk with kids about how important an education is. Education is critical in business recruitment. We can do all we want to do about driving the crime rate down and go out soliciting as many companies as we want, but if we don't have enough educated people to fill those positions that companies would bring, then nothing else matters.

Q: What does education mean to you?

A: It's certainly something you can never take away from somebody. It has been a door-

opener for me, and I'd like

to think I'm a little smarter as a result of it. It is a big difference when you go out to get a job, because it's a resume builder. It gets someone's attention if you have one and it also gets someone's attention if you don't as well. I was in a fraternity when I was away at school and I developed some life-

long friends that I treasure and consult with to this day. It also taught me how to get along with other people twenty-four hours-a-day seven days-a-week.

Q: Were you ever in any of the student government roles when attending La. Tech?

A: I wasn't involved in the student government, but I was active in the fraternity, like administration type roles.

Q: What teacher or instructor inspired you the most?

A: Well, I was in an advanced math class in high school and I made a "D" for the first six-week period. I wanted to drop the class, but the teacher told me not to give up. I ended up making it through the class and four years at La. Tech. That would have to be the most inspirational moment for me. The teacher in that advanced math class is now the principal of Captain Shreve, Sandra McCalla.

Q: What was the role of LSUS in the All American City event?

A: Your chancellor, Dr. Marsala, and Glenda Cooper took part in the presentations and helped put our best face and foot forward to

show the rest of the people what Shreveport was all about. LSUS is certainly a benchmark in the role of higher education in the city and played an important role in the All American City presentations.

Q: Will your children go in-state or out-of-state colleges?

A: I hope they will go in-state, but that decision will be left up to them. I think being happy where you go is critical. I like the new TOPS (Tuition Opportunity Program for Students). TOPS is currently costing the state \$80 million a year. That's a lot of money being pushed towards retention and higher education. I don't think we're doing enough for elementary and secondary education at this point, but that will come.

We're working on a roughly \$25 million expansion to the Independence Stadium, it'll be the largest expansion we've ever had.

Q: If you are mayor for several more terms, where would you like to see LSUS as a part of Shreveport?

A: I think our city lacks several things when you look at us compared to a city like Baton Rouge, or other cities around the country. We don't

have a major university campus here, we don't have a big federal or state government complex here and we don't have a lot of corporate headquarters here. A lot of companies look at how we can further educate our work force if we bring them to the city. I think we have a hard time selling that, but LSUS has been very helpful to me. I certainly would like to see LSUS grow.

Q: Any closing remarks about education and the city?

A: Everybody has sunshine, everybody has roads, a lot of people have water-ports and airports, but you have to have an educated work force.

I think there is a place for all of that, and that's why we have to continue to stress the importance of education. Although, I would never home school, I know there are those who do, and there is a niche for that, along with private schools. Whether you learn how to add on your fingers or on a calculator, if I'm wanting to employ you, I want to know that you know how to add. I think at the end of the day, we all want educated children and how they get there doesn't really matter to me.

Pumphouse under-going preservation

by Christy Avery

Sociology 492 had a guest speaker address the class during the regular 8 a.m. session on Monday, March 20.

Sociology 492 is a seminar course, taught by Dr. Norman Dolch, which applies theory and research of nonprofit organizations to case studies. The course is part of the human service minor requirement that prepares students for entry into the nonprofit sector.

Dale E. Ward, executive director of the Preservation Society, addressed the class with an issue involving the McNeil Street Pumping Station. The Pumping Station Preservation Society is a nonprofit corporation consisting of area citizens who cooperate in an effort to preserve the McNeil Street Pumping Station, formerly known as Shreveport's Original Water Works. The Society is pursuing plans to renovate the old station. Its mission is to preserve the Pumping Station and turn it into a technological and cultural museum.

Ward said the Society is doing this because, "In America, things don't happen unless there is an economic reason," and because the station was used for a water facility in the City of Shreveport, "it had an economic reason till it was retired in 1980."

Ward gave a little history. The McNeil Street Pumping Station is a regular National Historic site, designed by the Historic Association. It was recognized by the American Society Civil Engineers as a historic land site. "It's a unique facility that has outlived the era of steam power,"



Ward said. In 1980 the Smithsonian said that the Pumping Station had, "No other like it in the state." According to Ward, it is "probably the only water plant in the country with original steam power equipment in place."

The facility was constructed in 1887 by the City of Shreveport and retired in 1980.

The Pumping Station was used as an educational tool. Children visited the station on field trips. The Pumping Station now has, "antique machine powered machinery", which gives "a gothic appearance," said Ward. Ward added, "It's really surprising how good the equipment is, without having maintenance for 20 years." The Society is planning to turn the station into a museum and make it an historical site for tourism and an educational site, as it once was.

Currently the Preservation Society has formulated a repair committee, in order to repair worn out pumps. It is also putting together its Board of Directors. The Preservation Society is having a problem with funding, because the City of Shreveport no longer wants to be affiliated with the Pumping Station, therefore the Society has to seek funding elsewhere. Ward said, "A lot of Shreveport's history has washed by the station", and since "a lot of history has taken place around the facility, the Society thinks it will make a good historic gallery."

Anyone wanting to donate to the Society or needing more information can contact the McNeil Street Pumping Station Preservation Society: P.O. Box 957, Shreveport, La. 71163, or call (318) 221-3388

Problem from Hell



How many digits will the number $4^{16} 5^{25}$ have when written in the usual base 10 form?

Answer to last week's problem:

Let ab be any two-digit number. Then when we reverse the digits, we get the number ba . Now remember that the representation ab means $a \cdot 10 + b$. Thus $(a \cdot 10 + b) + (b \cdot 10 + a)$ is a perfect square. Simplifying, we get $(a + b) \cdot 10 + (a + b)$, which factors as $(a + b) \cdot 11$. Now, if $(a + b) \cdot 11 = r^2$, it follows that 11 divides r^2 since 11 is prime, it must divide r . So 11^2 divides r^2 . Hence 11 divides $a + b$. Now since a and b are both less than or equal to 9, $a + b$ is less than or equal to 18. But being divisible by 11, it must be 11. Our answer then, all two digit numbers, the sum of whose digits are 11. So 29, 38, 47, 56, 65, 74, 83, 92 is the list of such numbers.

Tekken 3 tournament this week in the U.C.

With the coming of Spring Fling, many college video gamers can prepare themselves for the second annual LSUS video game tournament. This semester's featured game: Tekken 3: The King of the Iron Fist Tournament.

Because of the late advertisement of last semester's Street Fighter Alpha 3 tournament, the attendance was under fifteen people. This semester, the Video Game Tournament Team hopes that the attendance will be much greater, complete with better prizes, stereo surround sound, and more seasoned players with a thirst for victory and chaos.

In an interview, organizer Cedric Rhodes said, "Spring Fling and Fall Fest are always fun to attend, but I thought that maybe we could add something that would make them more interesting, fulfilling, and exciting. With the Dreamcast and the upcoming release of the second Playstation, we can expect to see some heated competition in future tournaments. This could be the start of a new tradition on LSUS campus."

If you have a question or suggestion concerning the video game tournaments, the VGT Team is always helpful,

and open for new ideas and opinions. You can email them at LSUSVGT@yahoo.com. You can also receive



Rhodes

useful information about the current tournament, as well general tournament rules and registration information.

The Tekken 3 tournament will be held from 4 to 10 p.m. in the LSUS University Center cafeteria, during Spring Fling, April 15. Admission is free for all spectators, and \$2.00 for all participants. Players are encouraged to bring their own controllers, and prepare for the tournament beforehand.

Christians unite for "Rez Week"

by Christy Avery

Chi Alpha and Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM), two well known religious organizations across college campus, will come together to host the 2nd annual Rez Week, April 17-20.

Rez Week is a nationwide Christian celebration event where Christian organizations come together for a student outreach ministry with songs, praises and guest-speakers. The event celebrates the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is Chi Alpha's and BCM's biggest all time yearly event. Jason Pettiet, Rez Week organizer and member of both Chi Alpha and BCM says, "The purpose is to bring all organizations to unite as believers." Natalie DesMarais, BCM secretary and Chi Alpha member says, "We reach out to bring souls to Christ."

The schedule of events are as follows:

Monday April 17, inside the UC Theater from 7-9pm, a nationwide downlink

of outsiders; this is where college campuses unite all around through satellite. This event is being transmitted by 30 colleges, including University of Texas, Florida, and Oklahoma. The speaker will be Loui Gigio.

Tuesday April 18, during common hour, there will be singers, featuring Organized Singers by Kelly Fontenot and others, testimonies, a juggler and passing out of Easter eggs. Tuesday night, inside the UC Theater from 7-8:30 pm, there will be a praise bank, a speaker, Brian Opbroek-minister over the singles ministry at 1st Assembly of God in Shreveport. Pettiet says, "There will also be videos to keep the audience captured."

Wednesday April 19, beginning at 12:00 there will be a big Louisiana style luncheon and eight songs. Wednesday night, inside the UC Theater from 7-8:30, there will be a Chaulking, done by Al Bowl, an LSUS Alumni and former member

of BSU, while speaking is going on. Pettiet and DesMarais says, "It's going to be an honor to have him come."

Thursday April 20, during common hour, there will be Jolly Napier and later that night Jolly Napier will

return from 7-8:30.

Chi Alpha and BCM will be selling Rez week T-shirts for \$12.00. The special T-shirts are maroon will the Rez Week logo on them and a bible verse.

Pettiet invites everyone to come out. He's hoping to

have a big turnout. DesMarais says, "I'm really excited and hopeful. It's going to be successful."

Chi Alpha and BCM are happy to accept donations from anyone for the event. You may contact Jason Pettiet at 797-2660.

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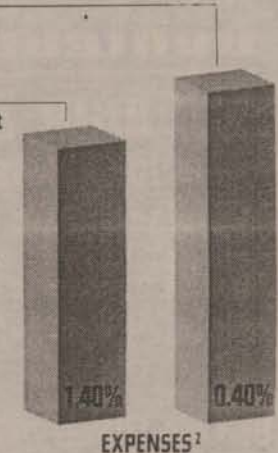
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Leadbelly biographer to speak here

by Matthew Morris

Renowned author and lecturer, Dr. Kip Lornell, will be speaking at Noel Memorial Library on Wed., April 19 at 10:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room on the third floor.

Lornell will be lecturing about his book *The Life and Legend of*

Leadbelly, a detailed biography of Huddie Ledbetter, the famous African-American folksinger, better known as Leadbelly.

The book traces the life and career of Leadbelly from the prison chain gang to the red light district of Shreveport to the streets of New York.

Lornell is donating his research materials for the book to the Noel Memorial Library Archives. These materials include items from recordings to pictures.

This will add to the archive's already extensive collection of materials covering the history of northwestern Louisiana.

An authority on regional American music, Lornell works as a research associate at the Smithsonian Institute and teaches at George Washington University.

He has published several books on the subject of American music.

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Pilots Begin Conference Play with Sweep

by Ryan Sanford



While most LSUS students were enjoying bikinis and applied sun screen, the Pilot baseball team was in cleats, applying pine tar to their bats on a hellish spring break road trip. Despite coming off a stretch of playing five games in four days, the Pilots were able to survive, completing the last leg of the journey in Marshall, Texas, with a flourish.

The Pilots steamrolled Wiley College in three-game conference series March 31-April 1, outscoring Wiley 28-4 in the three games. The sweep earned the players the right to come home and sleep in their own beds.

In game one of Friday's twin-bill, it was all Josh Constant. Once again, the Senior righthander was dominant, tossing a complete game shutout in a 4-0 LSUS win. Constant scattered five hits and walked only one while fanning

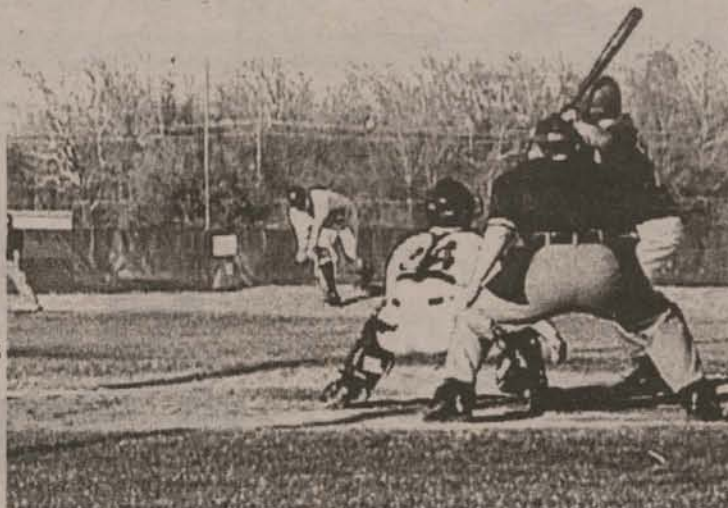
eight Wiley hitters. Nathan Teater went two for four and Scott Perrin doubled in two runs in the victory.

The second game was even worse for Wiley as Eric Whatley struck out a career high eleven batters on route to 13-1 pummeling. Whatley went the distance and surrendered only four hits as the Pilots pitching staff notched back-to-back complete games.

Daniel Hermes went two for four and drove in four runs including his second homer of the season. Perrin drove in two with a homerun and Alex Perez and Cayce Burkett had three hits apiece in the trouncing.

LSUS head coach Rocke Musgraves was impressed with the per-

formances of his hurlers. "We are pitching better than we have pitched all year." The first year skipper added, "we didn't hit the



Tony Sosa #22, pitching, while Mike Marino #24 catches

ball extremely well this weekend, but we came through with some timely hitting and were able to capitalize every time they (Wiley) made a mistake."

Russel Bowker completed the sweep on Saturday, tossing eight innings of four-hit ball on the way

to an 11-3 win. Bowker struck out four and did not walk a batter in the series finale. Hermes and Perez drove in two runs apiece and Burkett homered and had two RBI as the Pilots finished their longest roadie of the year.

Musgraves was delighted to leave Marshall with a 3-0 conference record. "We were very tired after playing five games in four days, but we competed very well." He added, "I am very happy to come out of here with a conference sweep. This will give us some good momentum going into our next series."

The Pilots home series against conference opponent Jarvis Christian College on April 7-8 was cancelled and Tuesday's road game at Northwood University was rained out. The Pilots will be in action this Friday at home against Texas College at 1 p.m. and will travel to Loyola University on Sunday for a doubleheader. The Jarvis series will be made up on April 18-19 at University Field.

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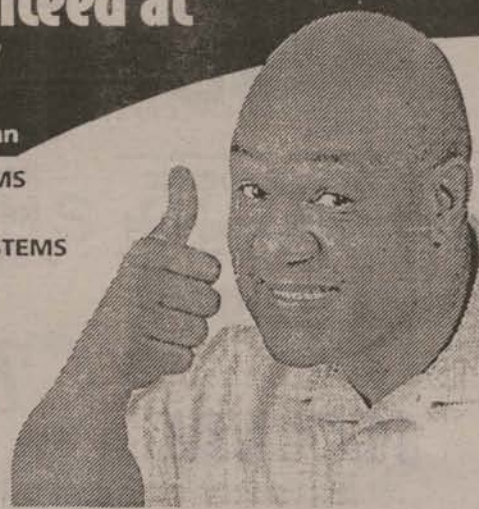
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BY JEREMY JOHNSON



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Sell your outdated teledildonic equipment in the Classified Ads and upgrade to a whole new level of experience and popularity. 25Wds/\$5 in Bronson #344

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Young Years Daycare is looking for a part-time employee to work with school-age children. Mon.-Fri. 2:45-6:15
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at
**SHREVEPORT
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No ID required,
if you know Jesus, he knows you.

ALCOHOL FREE SPRING BREAK!

@ Lake Charles, Thur. April 20-Sun. April 23. Free food and activities including a crawfish boil, Laser-tag, internet cafe, pool tournament, and a trip to Astroworld. \$15/night/person. sponsored by the Louisiana alliance to Prevent Underage Drinking and the Louisiana Office of Addictive Disorders
Call 1-877-807-6237

SLOPPY SECONDS

**WE SERVE LEFTOVERS
FROM ALL THE OTHER
RESTAURANTS IN TOWN
AT THE LOWEST PRICES!**
SLOPPY SECONDS
WHEN BEING BROKE
AIN'T NO JOKE, MAKE IT
SLOPPY SECONDS
TONIGHT!!!

Listen! It's KIK-S

Kick Ass Radio!
We don't play abbreviated music sounders and full length commercials, we play commercial sounders and non-stop music.

KIK-S

Kick ass radio for kick ass listeners !!!

Classified Ads

25 words for \$5. Deadline is friday before publish date. Bronson Hall #344 E.O.D.

Stop reading this and start writing your letter to the editor now. NOW!!!